

Appl. No. 10/643,720
Filed: August 18, 2003
Atty Dkt. HM-76623

**Rule 111 Amendment in Response to
6/1/04 Office Action**

John A. Richardson, Patent Examiner
Art Unit 3641
Title: MOUNTING SYSTEM FOR CLAY
TARGET THROWER AND RIFLE/PISTOL
REST

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the withdrawal of claims 1-12, applicant has canceled those claims so that further prosecution will continue as indicated on claims 13-21.

The rejection of claims 13, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 21 under 35 USC 102(b) over Mueller is most respectfully traversed. The Mueller patent discloses an elongated frame member 14 which is secured to a table 12 via a front shock plate 36. Proximate the rear portion of the frame member 14 is a windage adjustment mechanism 50. The mechanism comprises a U-shaped base having friction pads 53 which engage the top of table 12. Secured to the aft end of frame member 14 is a rifle stock receiving cradle assembly 26.

In Figs. 5-7 of Mueller, an assembly 63 is shown for use with a revolver 61. In this embodiment, a frame 67 is provided having an elongated center slot 66. The slot permits a slight longitudinal adjustment of revolver barrel rest 18. The slotted frame 67 is secured to the same front shock plate 36 as with the rifle embodiment. The height of the barrel cradle 18 is varied by rotation of threaded shaft 20, which is mounted in a tubular standoff 68. Upon achieving the desired height, a wing nut is used to lock the shaft in place. The revolver hand grip is removably engaged between elastomeric insert 73 that compressively holds the revolver hand grip.

From the above, it is clear that the hand grip cradle 65 formed from a molded housing 71, cannot in any way be construed as a pistol mount platform having an upper surface, and an opposing surface that is coupled to a rear cradle, as set forth in claim 13.

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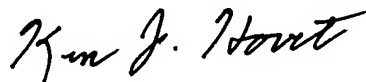
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In fact, there is no plate described in the Mueller reference that can be inverted. Inversion would not be possible with the molded, rigid outer cover 28 in Mueller's rifle embodiment. See column 7, lines 4-7. Considering the impossibility of cradle inversion occurring with Mueller's cradles, it is believed that applicant's amended claim 13 is unobvious and allowable.

Claims 14-21 further delineate features of the claimed gun mount. Such claims being dependent from claim 13 are also deemed allowable. Moreover, claims 14-21 have been revised to clarify ambiguities, so that they will be in a condition for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration of this application, and a Notice of Allowance, is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Kenneth J. Hovet, Reg. No. 25,988
Attorney for Applicant
Nordman, Cormany, Hair & Compton
P.O. Box 9100
Oxnard, CA 93031-9100
(805) 988-8346 (telephone)
(805) 988-7746 (facsimile)
e-mail: khovet@nchc.com